

Frank Stephens  
Field Notes 1925

Frank Stephens  
writing (S. B. San)  
1972



Sa Punta Valley, June 2 1925

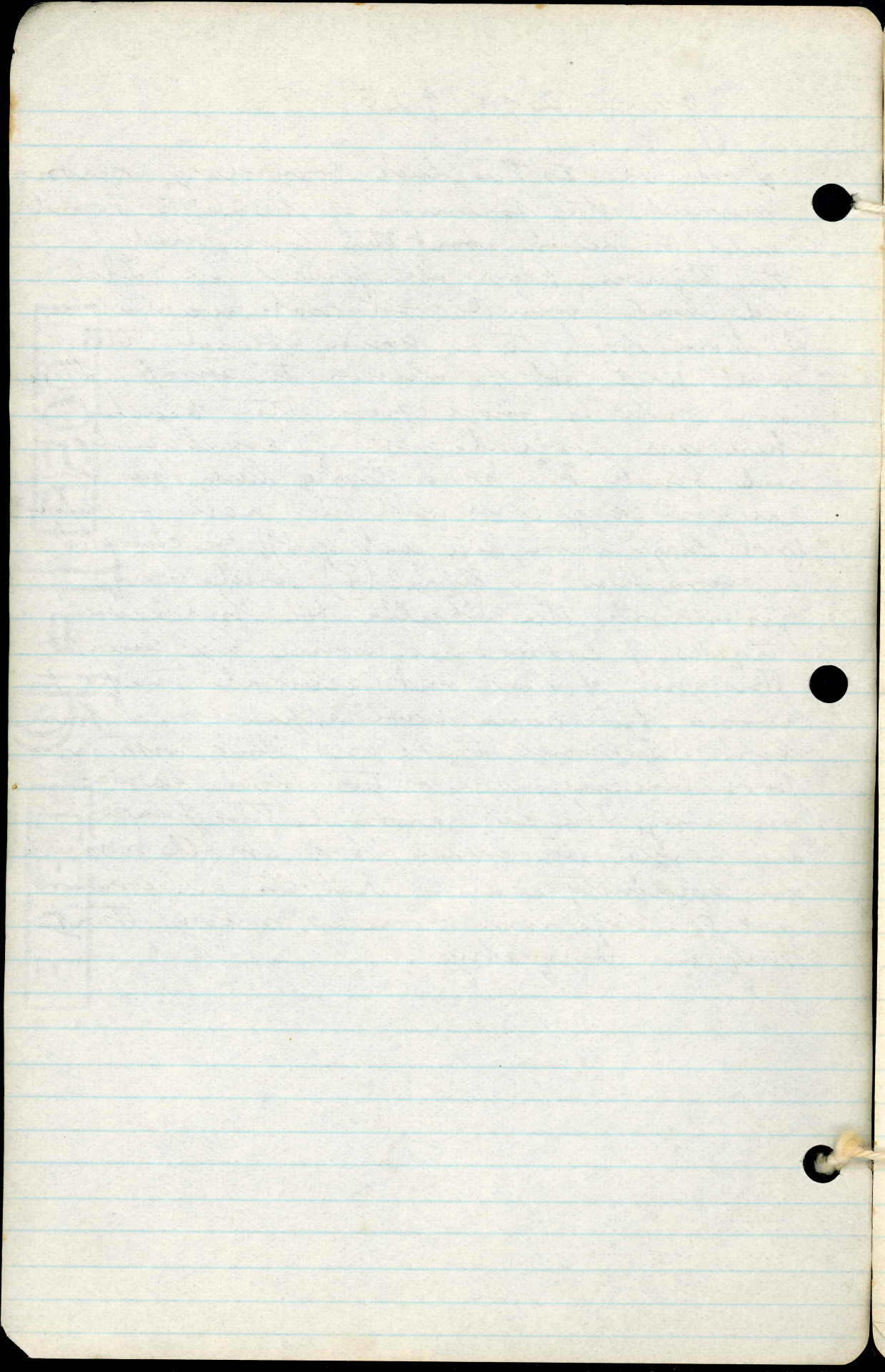
When I dug my well two years ago several Perognathus p. bongsi fell in, and when I went down to renew digging in the morning I found them there, later I trapped for them, and also for other mammals, around the pump house, but did not succeed in getting any bongsi. A few days ago, in the morning after a previous days irrigating, I saw very small mouse mouse tracks in the ditch, That reminded me that many years ago I used to get P. longimembris in corn filled with water set in an irrigating ditch, I set a corn with top flush with the bottom of the ditch, Next morning it contained three P. bongsi, and since then five more, As Lawrence Huey and Paul Govel have trapped here too without getting bongsi I have come to the conclusion that such small mice as these do not climb on the trap trigger, but pass around it. This may be the reason we have failed to catch Perognathus pacificus, If a trap could be made with a low trigger we might be more successful in trapping small mammals



June 29 1925

I drove to the last boundary monument the forenoon of the 26<sup>th</sup>. Found all the region about the lower end of the Tijuana River all fenced in. The old camp ground was not available. I drove back to a house beside the road and got permission to camp. This is a mile or more from the beach. There are several acres of small willows and brush. The man living here has an acre or so of corn and two acres of melons (not large enough to eat yet). He caught a 'coon here in April (♀) and has given me the skull. He has seen tracks of 'coons once since he caught this one. I put out several traps for 'coons but none have appeared. I have kept 35 mouse traps out, but with very poor success, - one or two mice each morning. The cats around the place are partly the cause, but small mammals are evidently scarce. Rabbits are common but the dogs run them so much that they are very shy.







Lake Hodges, San Diego Co., Cal.,  
Sept 26 1925

I am camped on the south side of the extreme upper end of the water of the lake as it now stands, some half or three quarters of a mile above the bridge, came here day before yesterday and put out some coon traps, baited with fish heads, that afternoon. Yesterday morning I had four skunks in the traps. Evidently they like fish. As they had torn up the places around the traps and scented them more or less I moved the traps to a little distance and reset them, using up all my fish heads but one, for bait. This morning none of the traps were disturbed.

There was a fox track in a trail above the lake this morning. There is one set of coon tracks, a week or more old, at the upper edge of the water between two of my traps, no other coon tracks seen yet.

A flock of 50 or more white pelicans are on the lake, also a considerable number of ducks of several species. I have seen a great blue heron several times, saw perhaps two dozen night herons, also one smaller heron, probably a green heron. One small shore bird, the size of a solitary sandpiper, stays around. Have not seen any flock of shore birds.



Lake Hood, 3 mi. N. of  
Sept 22 1922

I am camped on the south side of the  
western upper end of the outlet of the  
lake, on a narrow stream, some half a  
mile from the bridge. A mile above the bridge  
I have been busy for gathering and put  
out some more traps, baited with  
fish heads, that afternoon. Yesterday morn-  
ing I had four chickens in the traps.  
Evidently they like fish. As they had  
been up the stream around the traps  
and counted them more or less I  
moved the traps to a little distance  
and reset them, raising up all my  
fish traps but one, for bait, this  
morning none of the traps were ba-

tled.  
There was a fox track in a trail  
above the lake this morning. There is  
no sign of car tracks, a track or more  
old, at the upper end of the outlet  
between two of my traps, no other car  
tracks seen yet.

A flock of 20 or more white geese  
on the lake, also a considerable  
number of ducks of several species. I  
have seen a great many other small  
birds, but perhaps two dozen species.  
There are also some smaller birds, possibly  
a few more, but small shore birds.  
The size of a solitary sandpiper, stays around  
the outlet and a flock of shore birds



Lake Hodges, Sept. 29 1925  
Caught another skunk last night, a  
'coons track was in the mud at the  
edge of the water, six feet from a trap,  
but ~~it~~ it evidently did not scent the  
bait, which was a ground squirrel,  
Will pull on over to the coast today.

Larry Pines, Sept 30th,  
Have put out four sets of traps for  
coons in the canon north of the Biolog-  
ical Station, As there is no place to  
camp near there I pulled back here  
and camped.



Before today Sept. 29 1922  
Caught another skunk last night. A  
'coon track was in the mud at the  
edge of the water six feet from a water  
hole. It evidently did not scent the  
hole which was a ground squirrel.  
Will pull on over to the coast today.

Jump River, Sept 30th.  
Have just cut four sets of traps for  
coons in the canon north of the bridge  
local station. As there is no place to  
camp near there I killed back here  
and camped.



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